Gazette of the United States.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY *JOHN FENNO*, No. 9, MAIDEN-LANE, NEW-YORK.

[No. CII.] SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1790. PRICE *THREE* DOLLARS PR. ANN.

THE TABLET.

No. CII.

"The man who grows less by elevation is like a little Statue, placed on a mighty Pedestal."

PROMOTION brings the talents and integrity of a man to a test. It tries them by a standard that cannot long deceive. The reputation of a person, before and after an appointment to office, may be very different. In the tranquil scenes of private life, where good breeding is deemed equivalent to good sense; where useful virtues often assume the name of great talents; and where art and cunning are not severely scrutinized, how can it be known who possesses the firmest probity, or the most extensive abilities? Causes merely accidental may draw people into public view, in the first instance, but the real character can only be determined by an experiment. It is therefore not surprising that some men should sink and others rise, in influence, by being raised to a conspicuous station.

A man of a narrow capacity may perform duties to a certain extent, with as much propriety as he could, were his mind more comprehensive. In attending to objects evidently within his reach, he does not seem to be inferior, in that respect, to a person of an elevated genius. The reason is, that the employment itself does not give scope for stronger faculties than he is known to possess. Hence it is readily presumed that he is qualified for more arduous undertakings. Many circumstances may conspire to promote him to some important office which is beyond the sphere of his capacity. It could not be ascertained, without a trial, whether he deserved such a promotion. The abilities of men are not often co-extensive with their ambition. Keen passions do not disdain sometimes to associate with a weak understanding. When this is the case, men are tempted to wander from their limits; they make themselves *little* by striving to be *great*; and become contemptible in proportion as they aspire after respect.—Every person who acts well the part assigned him may gain some degree of reputation, but the most eminent part illy acted, can confer no honor on the performer.

The same observations will hold good when applied to the rectitude of men. There is a certain degree of strength in the probity of every individual. While a man is moving in the ordinary course of life, exposed to no uncommon temptations, his integrity may perhaps never be shaken. But place him in a situation new and difficult, where he is pressed by alluring motives, to depart from his duty, and it is incredible how soon he can shake off his former restraints. A person of slender abilities may not be able to comprehend the distinction of right, and wrong, in the intricate circumstances of public life. He can have no definite ideas of virtue and vice relative to subjects which he does not understand. By this means, a weak man whose intentions are originally honest, may fall into habits repugnant to moral rectitude, merely because he does not know what morality has to do with the occasion. It is hazardous in every point of view, for a person to take a stand more elevated than he deserves. The public eye will search out his defects, and the public contempt consign his character to the shades.

FROM THE DAILY ADVERTISER.

THE great and important object of raising a revenue engrossed much of the attention of Congress in their last session: in the present they are engaged in establishing public credit by funding the national debt, foreign and domestic, and devising ways and means to pay the interest on both:—these are undoubtedly objects of the greatest national importance, and every person who can furnish useful hints ought to do it. It is evident that a principal reliance must be had upon *commerce*; it is equally so that commerce ought therefor to be encouraged; and in my opinion, the present session ought not to be suffered to pass without very particular attention to it. In their innumerable fine harbours,—the amazing inland navigation which their extensive rivers afford—the exports, which encrease with astonishing rapidity—the enterprize of their commercial men—the plenty of materials for ship-building, and the skill of their workmen in that branch—the present number of their seamen, and the ease with which it may be encreased—and in their relative situation with respect to other powers, the United States possess very superior advantages, which ought immediately to be improved for the public benefit. That it would be useful cannot be denied, and it is evidently good policy, by giving suitable encouragement to commerce, to enable our merchants to pay those large sums of money which government is under the necessity of calling on them for in the first instance, and even larger, should they be hereafter wanted. A well regulated commercial system should be formed and supported, and, in this, very particular attention should be paid to our shipping. Whether we consider the number of men employed about one vessel, from the cutting down the timber for her, in the forest, to her departure from port—the farmers employed in raising provisions for all these, and flax and hemp to make the sails and rigging—or the number of mechanical arts dependent on, and promoted by ship-building, this branch of business will appear worthy of the warmest support: in addition to the other advantages to be derived from it, will be the very important one of being our own carriers, which will enable us to transport the products of our country, on the best terms, to the highest markets, furnish us with an opportunity of procuring the conveniences of life from other nations at the first cost, and keep all the money paid for the large freights out and home among ourselves, instead of its being paid to foreigners who now reap most of the advantages of our trade. The conduct of Great-Britain may furnish us with a very useful hint, and we shall be unwise indeed if we do not profit by her experience. Her acts of trade and navigation shew clearly her attention to her own shipping, and the reluctance she has always discovered to any relaxation of their rigor proves that she is fully sensible of the advantages gained by them. Let us attend a little to her conduct. Her ships must be *British-built*, and the master and three-fourths of the hands must be British subjects. Her own territories do not furnish her with the materials necessary for ship-building, in sufficient quantities, and she must have recourse to foreigners to procure them. Large quantities of our timber, plank, masts, &c. are annually carried off in British ships sent hither for the purpose: thus her seamen are employed, and a freight is made. The raw materials carried from us are manufactured in Great-Britain, and her ship-carpenters and their attendants, blacksmiths, ship joiners, caulkers, block-makers, mast-makers, rope-makers, riggers, sail-makers, boat-builders, and a great number of others are furnished with employment, and support. The ships, thus built, furnish a nursery for seamen; become the carriers of British manufactures to us; and of our products at home, as remittances for those manufactures; for all which *we* must pay: and they are at this time profitably employed in carrying the produce of the United States to France, where they obtain a bounty on it. Due attention to the encouragement of ship-building, and the proper regulation of commerce would throw all these advantages into our hands, and prevent our commercial and seafaring men the mortification of seeing foreigners engrossing our trade and growing rich by it, while they themselves are neglected and unemployed; it would fill our harbors with vessels manufactured at home, and with hardy seamen born among ourselves, who would have stronger attachments to the country than the mercenaries who come here merely for the sake of gain; and on whose assistance we could rely in case of necessity.

It may be enquired whether we could build a sufficient number of vessels to answer the purposes of our commerce: of this there can be no doubt in the mind of any person who will recollect what was done in this way before, and even during the war. In the year 1774 the small state of New-Hampshire built and sent to sea, forty-two ships from two to three hundred and fifty tons each, (which were all manned from the single port of Portsmouth) besides small trading and fishing vessels: if so small a state could furnish such a proportion, what would not the exertions of all the states be equal to? Even under the depressions of the war, our own yards furnished merchant vessels and privateers with an expedition that was surprising; and can our abilities now be doubted when we are under every advantage for cultivating the arts of peace? Why then should we longer suffer foreigners to enrich themselves with the spoils of our commerce? Why should we suffer our national dignity to be insulted by a people who will not deal with us on terms of reciprocal advantage. The trade of Great-Britain to America is one of the most lucrative branches of her commerce; she trades with the United States on equal terms with the most favored nation, and every of our ports is open to her ships. What return does she make? She admits us, it is true, to her European ports, but are not all the others shut against us? Are our ships permitted to trade with her West-India islands, and other territories in America? They are not: why then should we treat her with greater generosity? Why should we abuse ourselves, and do injustice to our allies, by submitting to the insolence of an haughty nation, with whom we have no commercial treaty? A decided preference in every point of view ought to be given to our own shipping; an higher tonnage on foreigners in general will have a great effect; and foreign ships should be absolutely prohibited from carrying the produce of these states to any port or place, to which American vessels are not admitted.

It is rather an unfortunate circumstance that there are so few mercantile characters in Congress; as for want of sufficient commercial information, the interests of the Union in this important point cannot be so well promoted as they otherwise might: the defect would be in some measure supplied, if our merchants would, from time to time, suggest such alterations in, and improvements upon the commercial system of the Union, as would tend to public benefit; these will, undoubtedly, be properly attended to by our national government, and such arrangements will be made as would promote our manufactures, extend our commerce, and assist our revenue.

A. B.

March 31.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11.

IN Committee of the whole on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, for making provision for the support of the public credit—the following proposition was read, viz.

"To have sixty-six dollars and two thirds of a dollar funded immediately, at an annuity, or yearly interest of six per cent. irredeemable by any payment exceeding four dollars and two-thirds of a dollar per annum, on account both of principal and interest; and to have, at the end of ten years, twenty-six dollars and eighty-eight cents funded at the like interest and rate of redemption."

Mr. JACKSON observed, that he should not follow the gentleman, (Mr. Ames) through the long tract of history which he had entered into; altho he would hint to the gentleman, that the history of Great Britain, which had been so much objected to on former occasions, seemed, as it suited the gentleman's purposes, to be the best authority now. But he rose to answer some of the arguments he had adduced.

The gentleman had quoted the situation of Great Britain in the year 1719, and had shewn that she had cleared off full one half of her national debt, and could have cleared the other also, if she had not been prevented by an irredeemable quality. I will appeal to the gentleman, himself, if this is not the strongest reason for striking out the words, and if his argument (as he could wish it) is not totally inadmissible.

He has likewise pointed out to us the flattering prospects and flourishing situation of the country, such indeed as no other nation ever possessed; and has produced the amazing increase of resources America has derived from the year 1786 to the present time. Sir, this argument is the strongest evidence for the motion, I have the honor to make you, and is the most forcible reason why we should not tie our hands up from redeeming our debt. From the gentleman's description, we may be able to get rid of it in a very few years; and shall we prevent our having the power? He trusted not.

The irredeemable quality, he found from the gentleman was to prevent the public from paying off the principal, if the rate of interest should so fall as to make the capital of greater value: As for instance, if the national rate fell to 3 per cent that the public should pay the advance, which would be 25 per cent. and of course that sum was to be paid for every one hundred pounds principal. This was what he could not consent to. The public had contracted a debt; He wished then honestly and fairly to pay the amount of it. He was not for depreciating that debt; but at the same time he was not for appreciating it beyond its real value. He wished that the honor of the nation might be preserved—that every shilling might be provided for; but not a shilling more.

It had been advanced, that, by this quality, a part of the principal would be sunk, and that if the motion took place this would not be the case. Mr. Jackson here observed, that the country would not be injured by the motion he had made, nor by the raising the interest to six per cent. He wished it done for the honor and faith of the nation—it was agreeable to the original contract.—He had before shewn that, as the resolution was now worded, it was altogether for the benefit of the foreign creditor, and that it would prove a pernicious drain to our specie; that the lowering the interest would add to that drain, and that therefore it was a disadvantage. The common rate of interest, in the Southern States, was 8 per cent. if the interest of the debt was reduced to four, would any man in those States hold stock at that rate? Would they not altogether sell out, even at a loss, and loan their monies to individuals at 8 per cent. and regain their capital? It would be a natural consequence; and there would be no holder of stock in those parts. The securities would either go into the hands of foreigners, or be purchased up in the Northern States. It was therefore clearly the interest of America, to raise the principal and interest agreeable to the contract, to keep as much within the States as possible, and, to make the burthen agreeable, to have it divided and dispersed generally among our own citizens.

The gentleman had said, that foreigners would follow their property into this country: This he could not agree to. The characters which would purchase were generally the brokers he had alluded to, who lived on their interest without regarding posterity; they were chiefly superannuated, and well settled, and of course would not be for a change of situation; but if they did, the evil would still remain, and the securities would soon find their way to foreign countries again. The settlers, here, would experience it to be their interest to place their monies in a more active capacity, and the same rate of interest would be the same inducement to other foreigners to purchase.

The gentleman had asked if it was the intention to oblige the public to pay compound interest? He would answer him, no. It was an option held out, where persons might not prefer our western lands: It would shew creditors, that Congress provided for them as much as lay in in their compass at present, and that the remainder would be provided for whenever the United States had it in their power. If he did not understand the original proposition, he begged to be set right; but as he understood it, the present motion would leave the proposition, on the head of interest, as it found it; the principal only would be raised to its nominal amount.

The motion, he contended, was just to our creditors, and complied with our engagements—it was just to ourselves. He hoped the committee would view the word "irredeemable" as he did, and as he was convinced our fellow-citizens would view it—as obnoxious and impolitic. He would beg the committee again to attend to the first ar-

gument he had noticed to the gentleman, (Mr. Ames)—that Great Britain, in the year 1719, might have ſunk all her debt, but for this very tie, which we were about to impoſe on ourſelves.

Mr. MADISON could not admit ſome of the doctrines of the gentleman, nor ſome of the concluſions drawn from others. The propoſed modifications, however veiled or varniſhed by ourſelves, could not be reconciled with the tenor of the public engagements, and muſt reſt for their juſtification with the world on the circumſtances of the country. The Britiſh example adverted to was not applicable. The creditors there, by refuſing to ſubſcribe to the new loan, remained in poſſeſſion of their ſtipulated intereſt. It was but to let the tranſaction ſpeak its true meaning: as it was decided to be the ſenſe of the committee that the public circumſtances required that the debt ſhould be modified, the only queſtions left muſt relate to the form and words of the modification to be propoſed. He wiſhed to ſimplify the debt as much as poſſible, and ſhould therefore agree to ſtrike out the clauſe reſtraining the right of redemption to the rate of 4 dollars and a fraction per annum. in order to authoriſe the government to pay it off at the rate of 10 dollars per annum, as ſuggeſted by another gentleman from Maſſachuſetts. If this, ſaid he, be done, it would be proper to adjuſt the ſum to be funded at the end of ten years, to the change made in the irredeemable term. The gentleman had drawu a pleaſing, and he hoped a true picture of the growing proſperity of this country. But what would reſult from it? Not that the debt ſhould be perpetuated; but that we ſhould be able to begin a reduction of the principal, and ought not therefore to throw away the right to do ſo.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12.

In Committee of the whole on the report of the Secretary of the Treaſury, for making proviſion for the ſupport of the public credit.

The third propoſition was read.

Mr. Lee moved that this ſhould be rejected.

Mr. Fitzſimons obſerved that if this is ſtruck out, all idea of offering an alternative to the creditors is abandoned—he wiſhed to enquire whether that was the mind of the Committee? For if this is ſtruck out, the creditors muſt receive the two-thirds, at ſix per cent. and the reſidue in land.

Mr. Lee ſaid, that having made proviſion for the debt to the extent of our abilities, he thought there was no obligation to attempt to do more, and being in favor of a ſimple plan of finance, he was oppoſed to encreaſing the propoſitions on which it is to be funded.

Mr. Sedgwick obſerved that to an inhabitant of Virginia, the plan of paying one-third of the debt in lands, was an object of great conſequence. But to thoſe of the Middle and Northern States, this would prove a very inconſiderable inducement to ſubſcribe to the loans: Upon terms of juſtice and equality, he therefore contended that different alternatives ought to be held out to the inhabitants of the United States.

Mr. Stone was in favor of the motion—he anticipated foreigners becoming proprietors of our funds, as an evil to be greatly deprecated. The ſettlement of the Weſtern Territory, by our own citizens is a deſirable event, from this ſource we have always expected to derive the means of ſinking a great proportion of our debt; and by confining the creditors to one object, we ſhall equally intereſt the citizens of all the ſtates. If we hold out different alternatives, we ſhould probably deprive ourſelves of the advantage of making ſale of any of our Weſtern Territory.

Mr. Sherman was oppoſed to the motion—he thought it wiſe and juſt to hold out different propoſitions; he differed with Mr. Sedgwick, he thought the lands would be an object with the New-England people: They are addicted to emigration as much as any part of the union. He was for ſhortening the period for redemption; but hoped that the propoſition would not be rejected altogether.

Mr. Fitzſimons advocated the propoſition, and entered into a particular conſideration of the advantages which would reſult in the preſent circumſtances of the country from foreigners purchaſing our debt, provided they gave a full equivalent for it. The advantage of the caſh which would thereby be brought into the country, would more than counterbalance the payment of intereſt for many years to come.

The motion for rejecting the propoſition being put, it was negatived.

The queſtion then was on the amendment propoſed by Mr. Jackſon for ſtriking out what relates to irredeemability.

Mr. Tucker in a ſeries of calculations upon certain principles attempted to ſhew that the irredeemable quality would greatly enhance the debt of the United States.

Mr. Lawrance replied to Mr. Tucker, and ſhewed that the gentleman's plan would greatly enhance the amount of the debt; whereas the Secretary's report demonſtratively provides for leſſening it.

He agreed with the gentleman from Maryland, that we ought to do the beſt for our creditors; but did not think that making them only one offer, and that the one already agreed to, was doing the beſt we can. He mentioned the exiſting reſources of the country, and the obligation we are under to exert ourſelves upon that idea. He ſhewed the advantage of the ſpeculation of foreigners, and that it ought to be encouraged.

Mr. Madiſon ſaid that foreigners ſpeculating in our funds would induce a ſpirit of luxury. That the pernicious conſequences of credit had been ſeverely felt; that our experience did not juſtify the ſuppoſition that an influx of active property, or money would be employed in agricultural improvements.

He did not think that if a medium to the amount of one-fourth of the value of all the property of the United States was to be thrown into circulation, that any more land would be cultivated.

Mr. Goodhue ſaid that if by retaining the words, any advantage can be derived, there can be no doubt with gentlemen as to the eligibility of retaining them. He thought it had been demonſtrated, that advantages would reſult from this irredeemable quality.

Several other gentlemen ſpoke on the occaſion—the motion was loſt.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13.

The chairman of the committee having read the reſolve, "that immediate proviſion ought to be made for the preſent debt of the United States," &c.

Mr. Gerry obſerved, that he ſhould have riſen before this propoſition was read, had he not ſuppoſed that the gentleman from Pennſylvania (Mr. Fitzſimons) intended to bring forward his motion for filling up the blanks left in the laſt propoſition which was conſidered yeſterday, and Mr. Fitzſimons informing the committee that he propoſed to make his motion in the Houſe—Mr. Gerry ſaid that, as many gentlemen appeared to be ſatisfied that the two propoſitions for modifying the debt would be acceptable to the creditors, and he entertained a different opinion, he hoped for the indulgence of the committee, whilſt he ſubmitted his reaſons for differing from them. He ſaid he conſidered this part of the Secretary's plan as the moſt important of the whole: it is the eſſence of the funding ſyſtem, the pivot on which will depend the equilibrium of public credit. He had always conceived that public credit was indiſpenſible to our national exiſtence, under any form of government, and being in favor of the Secretary's plan in general, he ſhould give it every ſupport in his power; but not thinking it perfect, he expreſſed a wiſh that its defects might be cured.

The Secretary, ſaid Mr. Gerry, lays it down as a maxim, and I think it cannot be conteſted, "that the maintenance of public credit can only be effected by good faith, and a punctual performance of contracts." Let us enquire what is the exiſting contract between the United States and their creditors, in what manner it has been complied with, and how far it is now in the power of Congreſs to do them juſtice.

The contract, he ſaid, it is well known, is to pay the principal of the debt in ſpecie, with an intereſt till paid of 6 per cent per annum. The principal indeed, of part of the debt, being payable in three years after it was contracted, is now due; but this claſs of the creditors will probably be ſatisfied with the proviſion to be made for the others.

And in what manner, ſaid he, has the contract been complied with? A ſmall part of the intereſt has been paid by bills of exchange on France, and the reſidue has been paid in depreciated paper, or is now due to the creditors.

He then enquired, how far it is in the power of Congreſs to do juſtice to the creditors? This point, he ſaid, had never been aſcertained; but we now intend to propoſe to the ſubſcribing creditors, to fund two thirds of their debt at 6 per cent. redeemable at the pleaſure of Congreſs, and to pay the other third in weſtern lands; or to fund two-thirds at 6 per cent. irredeemable in a ſtipulated degree, and to fund in ten years a ſum not yet aſcertained as an equivalent. The ſurplus of the funds, if any, is to be applied to the payment of the intereſt due to non-ſubſcribers, ſo as not to exceed 4 per cent. agreeably to the propoſition of the Secretary. Is this ſecuring, or is it doing all we can to ſecure to the creditors a compliance with the terms of the contract? I conceive it is neither.

That the propoſitions do not ſecure ſuch a compliance is evident at firſt bluſh; for who would give as much for 100 dollars, two-thirds of which ſhall be funded in one of the modes propoſed, and the other third payable in lands, or in an equivalent to be funded ten years hence, as for 100 dollars funded at ſix per cent. per annum, and redeemable at the pleaſure of Congreſs? No man of common underſtanding, as I think will hereafter appear.

That the making ſuch propoſals is not doing all we can to ſecure ſuch a compliance, is, I think, equally evident.

Some gentlemen have declared, that they have no idea, of the ability of government to fulfil the contract; and that the creditors have abandoned an expectation of receiving either the whole of the principal or of the intereſt that is due to them. What evidence have we of this? If we may judge from the juſtice of their claims, from their urgency and impatience, and from the petitions of the creditors, they expect the whole of their principal and intereſt: but if they do not, is it not evident that they muſt conſider the nation in a ſtate of bankruptcy? And is it not our duty to convince them, and all the world, of our ability and diſpoſition to pay our debts, by doing the ſtricteſt juſtice to our creditors.

If gentlemen have no idea of the ability of government to do this, they muſt either deſpair of reſources, or of the ſupport of the people in drawing them forth: and if the former, is it not our duty, and will it not be more honorable to apply the reſources as far as they will go to the diſcharge of the debt, and to depend on our increaſing population, commerce, huſbandry and manufactures, and alſo on the weſtern territory, for an encreaſe of means, rather than to declare a national bankruptcy? This, like Pandora's box would be pregnant with every evil; it would ſhake the government to the foundation, and endanger our national independence. But why, if they deſpair of reſources, do gentlemen reſolve to make adequate proviſion for fulfilling our engagements with foreigners? Are, we, in caſes of exigency, to reſt the ſupport of our government on foreigners, or on our own citizens? If on the latter, will they ever truſt us after ſuch partialty to foreigners? Are not the debts contracted with our citizens as juſtly due as thoſe of the other deſcription? If we are to make a diſcrimination, ought it not, on principles of policy, to be in favor of our citizens? May not our national exiſtence depend on our credit with them? I am not, however, in any event, for making ſuch a diſtinction; for, in caſe of a bankruptcy, I ſhould be in favor of equal juſtice to every creditor. But why this deſpondency? Shall we not, by deſpairing, or even doubting of our ability to ſupport public credit, materially injure it? Shall we not be cenſured for want of firmneſs? Shall we not be reſponſible for having thus deſpaired of the Commonwealth, and, what is worſe, for having deſpaired without cauſe?

Have we attended to our reſources? Have we an adequate idea of them, and of the demands of government? By the Secretary's report it appears that the whole amount of the foreign debt and intereſt, and of the domeſtic debt, liquidated and unliquidated, and intereſt, including the State debts, is 79,124,464 dollars and 56 cents: That there will annually be requiſite

	Dolls. Cts.
For the intereſt of the foreign debt,	542,599 66
For the intereſt of the domeſtic debt, if paid according to the contract,	4,044,845 15
For the civil liſt, and other expences of government,	600,000
Total,	5,187,444 81
The revenue reported in his firſt eſtimate is,	2,843,000
In his laſt eſtimate,	1,060,000
Making	3,903,400

Which leaves a deficiency of 1,284,044 dollars, and 81 cents, for funding the whole debt according to contract.

The Secretary has likewiſe reported that he has additional reſources, without extending taxation to houſes or lands, or the ſtock or produce of farms; and we have no reaſon to ſuppoſe that thoſe additional reſources would not be adequate to the making up this deficiency. But if this is not the caſe, it is well known, that, in conſequence of the propoſitions of Congreſs, in April 1783, many of the States diveſted, as they conſented to be, of the impoſt, and loaded with State debts, far exceeding their preſent amount, agreed to provide annually their reſpective proportions of what were called the ſupplementary funds, amounting to 1,500,000 dollars; and can any one doubt that, exonerated as the States will now be of their debts, the citizens of the United States in their preſent circumſtances, can with much more eaſe, pay the deficiency mentioned, than they could at that period the ſupplementary funds?—Indeed, can any one doubt our ability at this time to fund the national debt, according to the ſtipulated terms of the contract?—If there are any ſuch, I confeſs myſelf not of the number. It is ſaid we muſt have in reſerve reſources in caſe of exigencies: This may be proper; but is not the ſupport of public credit of the greateſt moment? May not the loſs of it prove an irreparable injury? And are we to incur a certain evil to avoid an uncertain one?

If our reſources then are not to be doubted, what reaſon have we to diſtruſt the ſupport of our conſtituents? Should it be ſuggeſted in our hearing that they were indiſpoſed to pay a debt, that had not only a claim on their juſtice, but on their honor and generoſity, a debt that is the price of their independence, ſhould we not kindle with indignation? And ſhall we, by an unreaſonable diſtruſt, be the firſt to fix ſuch a ſtigma on our conſtituents? Or, conducting thus, ſhall we not juſtly merit their reſentment? If it be aſked what ſhall we do to fulfill, as far as poſſible, our contract? I anſwer, we ought not to oblige the creditors to take two-thirds of their demands in funded ſecurities, and the other third in wild lands, or in what you may call an equivalent, *ten* yeart hence; or to receive the alternative provided for the unſubſcribed debt. A great part of the debt is ſtill in the hands of the original holders, to do juſtice to whom the committee are unanimous in their wiſhes. If we ſuppoſe ten millions dollars in the hands of ſpeculators, the value thereof will, at the late average rate of ſtocks, amount to between three or four millions dollars in ſpecie, a ſum I conceive, exceeding the property of the ſpeculators altogether; but ſuppoſe they hold 15 millions dollars, foreigners 5 millions, and the States, excluſive of Pennſylvania, 3 or 4 millions (for that State, having exchanged her funded certificates for continental ſecurities, which were generally owned by original holders, muſt according to the Secretary's plan, deliver them into the federal treaſury, or re-exchange them) it is evident then that two-thirds of the public debt is in the hands of original holders: Let us however ſuppoſe but half, will many of them be willing, or, if willing be able to receive lands for a third of their debts? If the lands were cultivated and near them, would they be equal to an intereſt of 6 per cent. or of more than 4 per cent. except perhaps in ſome of the Southern States? And would they be diſpoſed to accept of your propoſal? But remote as theſe lands are, inveſted by hoſtile Indians, wild and uncultivated, will they furniſh food or cloathing for your creditors? Should a few purchaſe, will they not be comparatively very few.

Again, will funding an equivalent for one third ten years hence, be fulfilling the contract? After being ten or fifteen years put off with promiſes, will the creditors be thus ſatisfied? Will it be in their power—advanced as many of them are in years, and called on, perhaps, by their own creditors, whom your diſappointments have prevented them from paying to accept ſuch terms? Suppoſe an individual had truſted an other for ſuch a term of years, and at the end thereof, when the latter was in poſſeſſion of his eſtate, had been told, that two thirds of the intereſt ſhould be annually paid; and that the other third, or an equivalent ſhould be paid in ten years: would the propoſal eſtabliſh the credit of the debtor? Or would he not be conſidered as a perſon deſtitute of honeſty? How then can we expect, merely by ſuch propoſals, to eſtabliſh the public credit?

Gentlemen conceive that the propoſition, referred to will be an equivalent, on the principle laid down by the Secretary, viz. that a leſs capital at a fixed rate of intereſt, may be an equivalent for a greater capital at a variable rate: but admitting this principle, are not the data doubtful on which the calculations are made, that intereſt in five years will fall to 5 per cent. and in 20 years to 4?

It is well known that the genius of our fellow-citizens is enterpriſing? We ſee them, although we have wild lands exceeding in extent the German dominion, croſſing the Miſſiſippi to ſpeculate in lands in the Spaniſh dominions: we ſee them extending their commercial ſpeculations to the North pole, and they will go to the South Pole on the firſt diſcovery of a commercial territory; in our funds, they ſpeculate deeply and they are as conſpicuous for their ſpeculations in forms of government. Scarcely a year revolves, without our ſeeing ſome of the States, or the United States, adopting a new ſyſtem of government; and, before 20 years ſhall elapſe, we may expect that the latter, in their turn, will form one or two conſtitutions. We are alſo, like other nations, ſubject to foreign wars and internal commotions: theſe, and ſuch like events, are beyond our controul; and, whenever they take place, will encreaſe the rates of intereſt. The probability is not therefore not more in favor of the fall than of the riſe of intereſt: and if it ſhould not fall, the propoſition to be made will injure the creditors. I conceive, then, that we have no more right to aſſume the principle that intereſt will fall, and by aſſuming it, to reduce the intereſt, than the creditors whoſe principal is due have a right to aſſume the contrary principle, in order to increaſe the rates of intereſt. The faireſt way is to preſume that the intereſt will continue at the rate it now is, and whenever it falls, to take the benefit of it ſo far as ſhall be conſiſtent with juſtice. Few of the creditors underſtand the calculation of equivalents, and will be apt to conſider them as a State artifice to reduce the value of ſtocks: they will be confirmed in this opinion, however honeſt our intentions may be, by the diſpoſition we are making to purchaſe the debt at the market price. We have no right to make arrangements of this kind, until the whole debt is fairly funded; and then, if we have funds left, we ſhall have a right to apply them in the way mentioned.

Some gentlemen have ſupoſed that 66 and two-thirds of dollars in ten years hence, may be worth 100 dollars: but this ſuppoſition does not eſtabliſh the fact. The riſe and fall of ſtocks, depend on events, theſe may reduce the ſum firſt mentioned to 33 and one third dollars.

If, then, the two propoſitions which have been examined do not ſecure a compliance with the original contract, will the alternative which is left for non-ſubſcribers? This provides that the dregs of the revenue, which may amount to nothing, ſhall be applied to pay their intereſt, not to exceed, in any event, 4 per cent. per annum. Will not this, in lieu of an equitable proviſion for the creditors, be conſidered as a penalty for their not ſubſcribing.

Mr. Gerry then ſaid, he preſumed it muſt appear that further proviſion is neceſſary, and he ſhould offer a propoſition, as an addition to the two, that are adopted in the words following:

"Or to have ſixty-ſix dollars and two thirds of a dollar funded immediately, at a yearly intereſt of 6 per cent; and thirty-three dollars and one third of a dollar in an unfunded certificate, bearing an annual intereſt of ſix per cent. payable at the option of the holder, annually, in a funded certificate at a yearly intereſt of 6 per cent; or as ſoon as funds can be provided, in ſpecie; and that the faith of Congreſs be pledged to fund as ſoon as poſſible the unfunded certificate."

By this propoſition, if Congreſs wiſh for time to make their arrangements, the creditor may either receive annually the intereſt on the unfunded part of his debt in a funded certificate; or, if he prefers ſpecie, he may wait till Congreſs can provide it. It perhaps will be ſaid, this will increaſe the capital; but we have already agreed to increaſe it by adding fifteen or twenty millions of dollars due for intereſt, or that will be due before the periods at which we are to fund the debt; and as we have done this becauſe we cannot pay that intereſt, the ſame reaſon exiſts for adopting a ſimilar meaſure with reſpect to the intereſt which may hereafter accrue, and which we ſhall not immediately provide to diſcharge. Within five years Mr. Gerry ſuppoſed Congreſs would be able to fund this unfunded part of the debt; and if no part thereof ſhould be received for lands, but the whole be ſubſcribed on the terms of this propoſition, the capital of the debt would at the end of five years be increaſed but 5,393,124 dollars, and the intereſt which would be paid during that period on the funded certificates, to be iſſued for intereſt, would be but 808,920 dollars: in ſuch an event there would be no irredeemable quality in any part of the debt, the diſadvantages of which overbalanced in the minds of the committee the advantages of reducing its capital, as was evident from their vote yeſterday to leſſen the time of redemption by increaſing the capital.

The Secretary has juſtly reprobated every propoſal that ſhall apply to the neceſſities, and not to the reaſon and intereſt of the creditors. If the two propoſitions agreed to do not apply to the latter, the neceſſity of the one now offered to the committee muſt be evident: if theſe propoſitions do apply, and are acceptable to the creditors, they will prefer them to this, which however will manifeſt our deſire to do them all poſſible juſtice.

Mr. Gerry then ſaid he was not ſo attached to the motion he had made as not to give it up, if any gentleman would offer a better, to attain the deſirable object he aimed at. This he thought indiſpenſable, becauſe if we offered what we called an equivalent, and not what the creditors ſhould conſider as ſuch, the intended loan would be a compulſory one, and, inſtead of ſupporting, would tend to deſtroy the public credit.

Mr. Gerry's motion was ſeconded by Col. Bland, and laid on the table. After the other propoſitions were paſſed, it was taken up and debated, and as ſeveral gentlemen were much oppoſed to a deciſion on ſuch a propoſition at ſo late an hour as three o'clock, and at the end of the week, in the abſence of a number of members it was withdrawn, that the committee might report, and will probably be brought forward in the Houſe.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31.

Memorials from the Manufacturers of Tobacco in the cities of Philadelphia and New-York, reſpecting an enhanced duty on manufactured Tobacco and Snuff were read.

The bill to regulate trade with the Indian tribes was read the ſecond time, and referred to a committee of the whole houſe, to be the order of the day on Monday next.

The amendments of the Senate to the bill for promoting the progreſs of uſeful arts were read.

A meſſage was received from the Senate, informing the Houſe that they have paſſed an act to prevent the exportation of goods, not duly inſpected according to the laws of the ſeveral States.

In committee of the whole.——The propoſition for the aſſumption of the State debts under conſideration.

The debate was continued; but no deciſion took place, previous to the riſing of the committee.

Mr. Sedgwick of the committee, to whom was re-committed the bill to regulate the intercourſe between the United States and foreign nations, brought in a new bill, which was read the firſt time.

The Committee alſo reported the following reſolution, which was laid on the table.

Reſolved, That the Secretary of State, be directed to report to the houſe, whether, in his opinion, it is expedient that the foreign and domeſtic branches of buſineſs, in his department, ſhould be kept diſtinct; and whether it is neceſſary that a chief clerk ſhould be appointed for each.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1.

The bill to regulate the intercourſe between the United States and foreign nations, was read the ſecond time, and referred to a committee of the whole Houſe, to be taken into conſideration on Thurſday next.

Mr. Gilman of the joint committee of both houſes, appointed to examine the enrolled bills, reported, that the committee had examined the bill for accepting the ceſſion of the claims of N. Carolina to a certain diſtrict therein deſcribed; alſo the bill to prevent the exportation of goods, not duly inſpected according to the laws of the ſeveral States—and found them duly enrolled.

The Speaker affixed his ſignature to the above bills.

Sundry petitions preſented by Mr. Huntington, and Mr. Lawrance were read, and referred to the heads of departments.

The reſolution, laid on the table yeſterday, reſpecting the Department of the Secretary of State was taken up.

Some converſation enſued on this reſolution—ſo far as the idea of creating two departments was contemplated by the reſolution, it was objected to—the mode of introducing the ſubject before the Houſe was ſaid to be unparliamentary—that after a great deal of debate reſpecting the arrangement of this department, a law had paſſed for its organization—that the Secretary is empowered by the law to employ as many clerks as he ſhall think proper—and in arranging the buſineſs if he finds it neceſſary, that the ſalary of a clerk, to whoſe particular inſpection, particular parts of the buſineſs is aſſigned, ſhould be encreaſed, he will make a repreſentation to the legiſlature accordingly.

Mr. Sedgwick obſerved, that nothing was further from his thoughts than creating two diſtinct departments—the committee had ſuppoſed that a reference of this ſubject to the Secretary of State was a natural and eligible ſtep; but however, as gentlemen appeared to entertain different ſentiments on the buſineſs, he would withdraw the reſolution.

In committee of the whole.——The propoſition for the aſſumption of the State debts was debated this day, till after three o'clock, when the committee roſe, without taking any vote on the queſtion.

A meſſage was received from the Preſident of the United States by his Secretary—with the ratification by South-Carolina of the amendments propoſed by Congreſs to the conſtitution of the United States. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2.

The members of the Houſe aſſembled this day at the uſual hour—but on account of its being Good Friday, adjourned till tomorrow, without doing buſineſs.

PREMIUMS

Propoſed by the Philadelphia Society, for promoting Agriculture, for the year 1790.

[Continued from our laſt.]

VI.

For the beſt information, the reſult of actual experience, for preventing damage to crops by inſects; eſpecially the Heſſian fly, the wheat-fly, or fly-weevil, the pea-bug, and the corn clinch-bug or fly,—a gold medal; a ſilver medal for the ſecond beſt. To be produced by the 20th of December, 1790.

VII.

For an account of a vegetable food that may be eaſily procured and preſerved, and that beſt increaſes milk in cows and ewes, in March and April, founded on experiment,—a gold medal; for the ſeond beſt,—a ſilver medal. To be produced by the tenth of January, 1791.

VIII.

For the greateſt quantity of ground, not leſs than one acre, well fenced, producing locuſt trees, growing in 1790, from ſeed ſown after April 5th, 1785; the trees to be of the ſort uſed for poſts and trunnels, and not fewer than 1500 per acre,—a gold medal—for the ſecond, a ſilver medal.—To be claimed in December, 1790.

IX.

The ſociety believing that very important advantages would be derived from the general uſe of oxen, inſtead of horſes, in huſbandry and other ſervices; and being deſirous of facilitating their introduction into all theſe States—perſuaded alſo that the comparative value of oxen and cows muſt very much depend on the qualities of their ſires and dams; and that by a careful attention to the ſubject, an improved breed may be obtained; they propoſe a gold medal for the beſt eſſay, the reſult of experience, on the breeding, feeding, and management of cattle, for the purpoſe of rendering them moſt profitable for the dairy, and for beef, and moſt docile and uſeful for the draught; and for the next beſt, a ſilver medal.—To be produced by the 1ſt of January, 1791.

N. B.—Among other things the eſſay ſhould notice the different breeds of cattle, and their comparative qualities; as their ſizes, ſtrength, facility in fattening, quantity of milk, &c.

NEW-YORK, APRIL 3.

We are informed that there will ſoon be publiſhed, an hiſtory of this, and the preceding ſeſſion of Congreſs; and that the object of this hiſtory will be to point out the moſt intereſting queſtions that have been debated, and to make ſuch remarks on the proceedings at large as will ſhew the general complexion of public buſineſs. This hiſtory will be rendered ſingularly entertaining, by furniſhing a biographical account of the moſt diſtinguiſhed characters in Congreſs; and by inveſtigating the views and principles which appear to have governed the debates.

A CORRESPONDENT.

To doubt the competency of the United States to pay the intereſt of ALL THEIR DEBTS, is to doubt a fact which exiſts with better evidence for its ſupport, than any fact that can be cited with reſpect to any civilized country upon earth.

It is to doubt of the ability of this people to ſupport its government. It is to doubt in a caſe, where doubt is deſtruction. It is to doubt the exiſtence of the body politic. It is to doubt the wiſdom of the great body of the people in adopting the conſtitution. It is to doubt the continuance of peace and domeſtic tranquility—in ſhort it is to doubt the exiſtence of every principle of honor and honeſty, among the citizens of the union.

If ſuch are the conſequences of *doubting* only in this caſe, what may not be expected ſhould it be poſitively aſſerted that the ſtates are not willing to do juſtice to their creditors, and that their funds are inadequate to paying their debts? It is to deſpair of the Commonwealth. It is to declare a national bankruptcy. It is to adverti ſe to all the world that we are a nation of rogues. It is to cut up our proſpects by the roots. It is to diveſt ourſelves of all hopes of future credit; either at home or abroad. It is to ſacrifice the intereſts of the moſt meritorious claſs of our citizens. It operates as a premium for delinquency. It is rewarding thoſe who never put forth a finger in the ſervice and defence of the country. It is entirely cruſhing thoſe who have taken upon them the burthens of patriotiſm, and have thereby emancipated their country. It involves a diſſolution of the ſocial compact, and is proclaiming to the world, "that there is rottenneſs in the State of Denmark."

A correſpondent obſerves that the zeal and induſtry with which ſome perſons endeavor to excite a ſpirit of jealouſy and hoſtility, between the general and ſtate governments, are equally inauſpicious to both—and altho the pretenders to political merit, are many, yet a ſurpluſage of honeſty and abilities, was never yet complained of in any country whatever. To deprive the people of an opportunity to avail themſelves of the abilities of their beſt men, whatever appearance the meaſure may aſſume, it will be found injurious to their moſt eſſential intereſts.

Poſſeſſing as the United States do, the eſſentials of ſovereignty, is it not degrading to the higheſt degree, that the American Flag ſhould not be unfurled upon terms of perfect equality in all quarters of the globe? Poſſeſſing ſuch inexhauſtible reſources for ſhip-building, is it not mortifying that our produce, and *raw materials* ſhould be exported from our ſhores, principally in foreign bottoms? *What ſtranger would not think himſelf in a Britiſh Port, when counting the Britiſh Flags in our Harbors?*

A Correſpondent obſerves that facts prove the fallacy of an opinion which has been induſtriouſly diſſeminated by ſome perſons, who are ſuppoſed not to be friendly to the New Government; which is, that the reſidence of Congreſs in any of our great commercial cities, would concenter an influence in ſuch place, that would tend to deſtroy the equilibrium of the union—for it appears by authentic documents publiſhed to the world, that Philadelphia ſupports her ſuperiority to New-York in exports and imports, in the amount of her impoſt, and the number of her ſhipping.

EXTRACT.

Few, if any ſituations in life afford a more extenſive field for diffuſing good to the community and mankind, than that in which an ingenious and judicious Editor of a Newſpaper is placed. Knowledge being the ſeed of political, domeſtic, and moral happineſs, his labors inſtruct millions, and deſcend to future generations—he culls from all authors and ages, from the living and dead wiſdom of the world. Newſpapers are the book of experience, they contain the moſt uſeful and important information for all ranks and conditions of men: And it is generally the caſe that a total indifference, to this ſource of entertainment, and inſtruction is connected with great inſenſibility, great ignorance, or conſummate vanity. I have known ſome characters who piqued themſelves on this indifference—and who at the ſame time precipitated themſelves into the moſt abſurd ſituations, for want of that knowledge which this medium would have ſupplied.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FABLE.

ONCE on a time, as authors tell,
The freſhets made a river ſwell;
The River, as the ſtory goes,
All the ſurrounding banks o'erflows;
The only neighb'ring ſpot of high-land,
Was ſoon converted to an iſland,
Thence, from their holes and burrows routed,
A motly tribe for ſafety ſcouted—
There *common danger* leagu'd in peace,
Dogs, cats and rats, and fox and geeſe;
Who, while the flood around them roſe,
Forgot they ever had been foes:—
But when the ground was clear of rain—
Were cats and rats, and dogs again;
All found their ſafety in their flight,
"And bid civilities good night."

Thus 'tis with States—when dangers nigh
"*Unite, we live—divide, we die*"—
The North and South in concert join,
And public good 's the grand deſign—
But when peace comes on downy wing,
And poets halcyon ages ſing!—
Thoſe States coop'd up in legiſlature,
(The example don't exiſt in nature)
Oppoſing intereſts abound,
And there the *local charge* goes round.

"ARISTIDES" came too late for this days paper—and as his ſubject has been decided on, we think it would be unſeaſonable; but ſhould be very happy to enrich the Gazette by future communications.

Juſt publiſhed, by
CAREY, STEWART, AND COMPANY,
No. III, of the VIIth volume of
The American MUSEUM,
OR
UNIVERSAL MAGAZINE,
And to be ſold by THOMAS ALLEN, No. 13, QUEEN-STREET, where ſubſcriptions are received, at 2 Dol. and half pr. an.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.——NEW YORK.

Brig St. George, ——— Oporto,
Sloop Cynthia, Rogers, St. Martins.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

At the Second Seſſion,

Begun and held at the City of New-York, on Monday the fourth of January, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety.

An ACT making Appropriations for the Support of Government, for the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety.

BE it enacted by the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States of America, in Congreſs aſſembled, That there be appropriated for the ſervice of the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety, to be paid out of the monies ariſing from the duties on imports and tonnage, the following ſums, to wit: A ſum not exceeding one hundred and forty-one thouſand, four hundred and ninety-two dollars, and ſeventy-three cents, for defraying the expences of the civil liſt, as eſtimated by the Secretary of the Treaſury, in the ſtatement annexed to his report made to the houſe of repreſentatives on the ninth day of January laſt, including therein the contingencies of the ſeveral executive officers, which are hereby authoriſed and granted; and alſo, a ſum not exceeding one hundred and fifty-five thouſand, five hundred and thirty-ſeven dollars, and ſeventy-two cents, for defraying the expences of the department of war; and the farther ſum of ninety-ſix thouſand, nine hundred and ſeventy-nine dollars, and ſeventy-two cents, for paying the penſions which may become due to the invalids, as eſtimated in the ſtatements accompanying the aforeſaid report.

And be it further enacted, That all the expences ariſing from, and incident to the ſeſſions of Congreſs, which may happen in the courſe of the aforeſaid year, agreeably to laws heretofore paſſed, ſhall be defrayed out of the monies ariſing from the aforeſaid duties on imports and tonnage.

And be it further enacted, That the Preſident of the United States be authoriſed to draw from the treaſury a ſum not exceeding ten thouſand dollars, for the purpoſe of defraying the contingent charges of government, to be paid out of the monies ariſing as aforeſaid, from the duties on imports and tonnage, and that he cauſe a regular ſtatement and account of ſuch expenditures, to be laid before Congreſs at the end of the year.

And be it further enacted, That a ſum not exceeding one hundred and forty-ſeven thouſand, one hundred and ſixty-nine dollars, and fifty-four cents, be appropriated out of the monies ariſing as aforeſaid from the duties on imports and tonnage, for diſcharging the demands which exiſt againſt the United States, as ſpecified by the Secretary of the Treaſury in his report made to the Houſe of Repreſentatives on the firſt of March inſtant, including therein a proviſion for building a light-houſe on Cape-Henry, in the ſtate of Virginia, and for defraying the expences ariſing from the act, entituled, "An act for the eſtabliſhment and ſupport of light-houſes, beacons, buoys, and public piers."

And be it further enacted, That out of the aforeſaid appropriation of one hundred and forty-ſeven thouſand, one hundred and ſixty-nine dollars, and fifty-four cents, the payment of the following ſums, not heretofore provided for by law, and eſtimated in the aforeſaid report of the Secretary of the Treaſury of the firſt of March inſtant, is hereby authoriſed and intended to be made, to wit: For the expences of the late office of foreign affairs, ſix hundred and fifty dollars: To Roger Alden, for his ſervices, including his office-expences, and the allowance to his clerks, eight hundred and ſeventy-three dollars, and ſeventy cents: To the late commiſſioner for ſettling the accounts of the departments of the late quarter-maſter-general, and commiſſaries general of purchaſes and iſſues, for his own and clerk's ſervices, from the eighth of May to the firſt of Auguſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, one thouſand and ten dollars, and fifty-five cents: To the late commiſſioner for ſettling the accounts of the late marine, cloathing, and hoſpital departments, for his own and clerk's ſervices, from the eighth of May to the third of Auguſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, ſix hundred and twenty-eight dollars, and twenty-ſix cents: To the late commiſſioner for adjuſting the accounts of the ſecret and commercial committees of Congreſs, for his ſalary from the firſt of July to the third of Auguſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, one hundred and ſeventy-four dollars, and ſixteen cents: For defraying the extraordinary expences of the late Preſident of Congreſs, three hundred and eighteen dollars, and fifty-three cents: For paying ſalaries to the late loan-officers of the ſeveral ſtates, from the thirtieth day of June to the thirty-firſt day of December, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine, including office-charges, ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-five dollars: For paying the intereſt due on the loans made by the Secretary of the Treaſury, two thouſand four hundred and fourteen dollars, and ſixty-one cents.

And be it further enacted, That the ſum of one hundred and twenty dollars, be paid out of the monies ariſing from the aforeſaid duties on imports and tonnage, to Jehoiakim M'Tokſin, in full compenſation for his ſervices as an interpreter and guide in the expedition commanded by Major-General Sullivan, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine; and alſo the ſum of ninety-ſix dollars to James Mathers and Gifford Dalley each, for ſervices during the late receſs of Congreſs.

And be it further enacted, That the Preſident of the United States be authoriſed to empower the Secretary of the Treaſury, if he ſhall deem it neceſſary, to make ſuch loans as may be requiſite to carry into effect the foregoing appropriations, for the repayment of which the aforeſaid duties on imports and tonnage ſhall be, and are hereby pledged.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,
Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.
JOHN ADAMS, *Vice-Preſident of the United States, and Preſident of the Senate.*

APPROVED, MARCH THE 26th, 1790.
GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident of the United States.*

(TRUE COPY)
THOMAS JEFFERSON. *Secretary of State.*

An Act to eſtabliſh an uniform Rule of Naturalization.

BE it enacted by the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States of America, in Congreſs aſſembled, That any alien, being a free white perſon, who ſhall have reſided within the limits and under the juriſdiction of the United States for the term of two years, may be admitted to become a citizen thereof, on application to any common law court of record, in any one of the States wherein he ſhall have reſided for the term of one year at leaſt, and making proof to the ſatisfaction of ſuch court, that he is a perſon of good character, and taking the oath or affirmation preſcribed by law, to ſupport the conſtitution of the United States; which oath or affirmation ſuch court ſhall adminiſter, and the clerk of ſuch court ſhall record ſuch application, and the proceedings thereon; and thereupon ſuch perſon ſhall be conſidered as a citizen of the United States. And the children of ſuch perſon ſo naturalized, dwelling within the United States, being under the age of twenty-one years at the time of ſuch naturalization, ſhall alſo be conſidered as citizens of the United States. And the children of citizens of the United States that may be born beyond ſea, or out of the limits of the United States, ſhall be conſidered as natural born citizens: *Provided*, That the right of citizenſhip ſhall not deſcend to perſons whoſe fathers have never been reſident in the United States: *Provided alſo*, That no perſon heretofore proſcribed by any State, ſhall be admitted a citizen as aforeſaid, except by an act of the legiſlature of the State in which ſuch perſon was proſcribed.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBURG,
Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.
JOHN ADAMS, *Vice-Preſident of the United States, and Preſident of the Senate.*

APPROVED MARCH 26th, 1790.
GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident of the United States.*

(TRUE COPY)
THOMAS JEFFERSON, *Secretary of State.*

OF THE EXTENT AND VALUE OF THE NORTH-CAROLINA CESSION.

The following account of the North-Carolina *Ceſſion, is ſaid to have been communicated to Congreſs by a Member from that State, while the bill reſpecting the ceded territory, was on its paſſage.*

FROM the Stone Mountain by the line that divides North-Carolina from Virginia, to the Fork of Cumberland river, the

	Miles
Diſtance is	112
From the clear Fork to the firſt croſſing of Cumberland river, above the mouth of Obey river, is	105
Thence to the ſecond croſſing of Cumberland river,	130
Thence to the Teneſee river,	9 ¼
Thence to the Miſſiſippi river,	60
The whole diſtance	416 ¼

The general courſe of the Stone Mountain, or the Iron Mountain, by which the ceded territory is divided from North-Carolina, is ſouth 59 or 60 degrees weſt. The courſe of the river Miſſiſippi from lat. 36 degrees, 30 minutes, the northern boundary of North-Carolina, to lat. 35, which is the ſouthern boundary, is generally ſouth, 25 degrees weſt. It may however be ſtated at ſouth, 20 degrees weſt.

The width of the ſtate is 1 degree, 30 minutes, or 104 miles. This gives 24,570,240 acres nearly. The amount of land entered in the office of John Armſtrong, ſince it was opened in 1783, of which ſome part is to the eaſtward of the Iron mountain, is 4,464,195 ¼ acres. Of the lands granted to officers and privates of the North-Carolina line, a correct return is not come to hand, but the higheſt eſtimation is 3,000,000 acres.—Pre-emptions, guards, and commiſſioners rights are eſtimated at 500,000 acres. The amount granted would then be 7,964,195 acres. There remains for the United States above 16,606,045 acres.

Of this there may be mountainous or barren land 5,000,000 acres, which is a great allowance, in ſo fine and fertile a country. There will remain fit for cultivation and ſale at leaſt 11,606,045 acres.

This land, or ſo much of the ſame as is, or ſhall be ceded by the Indians, may be immediately ſold at half a dollar the acre, in national ſecurities. It is worth that ſum in ſpecie.

European Intelligence.

LUXEMBURG, December 38.

PROVISIONS, within theſe few days, are more plentiful here, and great number of oxen have been ſalted down for the garriſon. General Bender is ſtill ill and indeed we have ſcarce any but ſick and wounded here, moſt of the troops have entered the field againſt the Patriots. On the 24th, the citizens brought back to the city, the miraculous virgin and all her riches, which had not appeared in this place ſince the entry of Louis XIV, into Luxemburg, except at the celebration of the Octave. As our principal citizens have fled, they now ſuffer no citizen to leave the city.

St. Hubert, Dec. 30. Our ſituation is truly critical; we have near 1000 Patriots in the city, and 1500 Auſtrians are entrenched two leagues off in defiles, which cannot be attacked with ſucceſs. The Emperor's ſoldiers will not expoſe themſelves by entering the city, as they know that mode of attacking ſeldom is ſucceſsful, but we are in fear leaſt they ſhould bombard us, to drive out the Patriots, which would infallibly deſtroy our city. We have in the country ſome Curates who have preached up the Cruſade againſt the Emperor, whilſt others have quitted their pariſhes to take up arms and animate the young men by their example; but ſome of the peaſants towards Neufchateau and Arlon, have hitherto held out for the Emperor. General Vander Merſch is too prudent to attempt to penetrate into the Ardennes without having his column ſupported by other troops, whom he expects from Mons.

We have juſt received advice that the Patriots have been ſurprized at Naſſoque, and were obliged to retreat with little loſs; they took the road to Namur.

LONDON, January 16.

Laſt Tueſday, a weaver of Crowhurſt went out after ſome debts that were owing him, and having collected about ten pounds, he retired to an ale houſe, Catsfield green, and in the courſe of the night loſt all his money in gaming, except three pence. Early in the morning he returned home and went to bed, but there he had not lain long, before he began to reflect ſo deeply on his folly, that he got up, went down ſtairs into an out houſe, and there hung himſelf, where he was ſoon afterwards diſcovered, but too late for human ſkill to afford him any aſſiſtance.

OYSTERS.

In the month of May the oyſters caſt their ſpawn: —It is like a drop of candle, and about the bigneſs of a farthing; it cleaves to ſtones, and other matters at the bottom of the ſea, which is called culch. In 24 hours it begins to have a ſhell; and by the law of the Admiralty Court in England, in the month of May, the dredgers have liberty to catch all oyſters; but with a knife, they gently raiſe the ſmall brood from the culch, and then they throw the culch in again, to preſerve the ground for the future. After the month of May it is felony to throw away the culch, and puniſhable to take away any oyſters, leſs than the bigneſs of an half-crown piece, or when the two ſhells being ſhut, a fair ſhilling will rattle between them.

The brood of Colcheſter and other oyſters, are carried to creeks of the ſea, and there they throw them into the channel, which they call their beds or layers, where they grow and fatten; and in two or three years, the ſmalleſt brood will arrive to the proper ſize. The oyſters they would have green, they put into pits about three feet deep, in the ſalt marſhes, which are overflowed only at ſpring tides, to which they have ſluices, and let out the ſalt water, until it is about a foot and a half deep.

In theſe pits they are ſuffered to continue ſix weeks or two months, in which time they become of a dark green. The oyſters, when the tide comes in, lie with their hollow ſhells downwards, and when it goes out, they turn on the other ſide. They remove from their place, unleſs in cold weather, to cover themſelves in the houſe.

The oyſters are ſick after they have ſpat, or ſpawn; but in July they begin to mend, and in Auguſt they are perfectly well.

THE ART OF SPEAKING.

Lord SHAFTESBURY ſpeaking of *verbal* fluency terms it a *diſeaſe*, and calls it *the leproſy of eloquence*; and DAVENANT writing on the ſame ſubject, ſays—"Both Prince and people are unfortunate, who depend on thoſe whoſe chief talent is the art of ſpeaking."

OLIVER, Cardinal XIMENES, the Duke de SULLY, Sir THOMAS MOORE, the CECILS, Treaſurer BUCKHURST, WALSIGHAM, the Cardinals RICHLIEU and MAZARENE, Secretary THURLOWE, CORNELIUS DE WITT, and the Treaſurer SOUTHAMPTON, with many others, were not at all remarkable for this gift. The art is rather *meretricious than meritorious.*

England, like Athens, has had its wiſeſt counſels diſſipated by the breath of oratory. The merit of Fox, SHERIDAN, and BURKE, conſiſts in words *only*.

William Taylor,

Has for Sale, at his EAST-INDIA GOODS STORE, No. 4, BURLING-SLIP,

A General Aſſortment of EAST-INDIA GOODS.

Among which are the following Articles;

BOOK Muſlins 8-4 6-4 5-4	HUMHUMS,
Jackonet do.	Long Cloths,
Hankerchiefs, of various kinds,	Caſſas,
Chintzes,	Seerſuckers,
Ginghams,	Boglapores.

A Variety of handſome painted MUSLINS.

With many other Articles, which will be ſold by the Piece or Package, low for caſh.

By the Viſitors and Governors of ST. JOHN'S *College in the State of Maryland, February* 10, 1790.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

THAT at the regular quarterly meeting on the ſecond Tueſday in *November* next, the Viſitors and Governors of St. John's College, elect a Principal of the ſaid College; that it be the duty of the Principal to ſuperintend the College according to regulations hereafter to be eſtabliſhed, and in conjunction with the Vice-Principal, to teach the higher authors in Latin and Greek—and the higher branches of ſcience uſually taught in other American Colleges; and that he receive for his ſervices, an annual ſalary of £.500 current money, equal to £.300 ſterling of Great-Britain, or 1,333 ⅓ Spaniſh dollars, to be paid quarterly.

That at the next quarterly meeting, on the ſecond Tueſday in *May* next, the board elect a maſter of writing and arithmetic in ſaid St. John's College; and that he receive for his ſervices, an annual ſalary of £.150 current money to be paid quarterly.

That Mr. Wallace, Mr. Carroll, of Carrolton, and Mr. Hanſon, be a committee to write a letter in behalf of this board, to Doctor Price, Doctor Reeſe, and Doctor Kippis, of the kingdom of Great-Britain, incloſing a copy of the Reſolve reſpecting the appointment of a Principal; requeſting them to recommend a man proper to be elected Principal of St. John's College, and aſſuring them, that if the man, whom they ſhall recommend, be approved of—immediate information thereof ſhall be given.

That the ſeveral Reſolves for electing a Principal and maſter of writing and arithmetic, be publiſhed in ſuch newſpapers as the ſaid committee ſhall think proper.

Teſt, NICHOLAS BRICE, Sec'ry.

☞ The public are requeſted to take notice that if a proper character in America ſhall offer, the Viſitors are free to appoint him; and that they wiſh to elect a Principal, as early as is conſiſtent with propriety, and the laſting welfare of the College.

Any perſon deſirous of offering himſelf either as a Principal of St. John's College, or maſter of writing and arithmetic, will be pleaſed by writing to inform any one, or the whole of the committee, conſiſting of Mr. Charles Carroll, now in Congreſs, Mr. Charles Wallace, in Annapolis, and the Chancellor of Maryland.

The printers of America are requeſted to inſert in their reſpective newſpapers the foregoing Reſolves and notifications; and to inform their fellow-citizens, that St. John's College, after a variety of untoward diſaſtrous circumſtances, was opened and dedicated in November laſt; that the plan of this riſing ſeminary comprehends two ſchools for philoſophy or the higher branches of ſcience, under the Principal and Vice-Principal—a ſchool for the learned languages under a profeſſor, an aſſiſtant maſter, and ushers to be appointed, according to the number of ſtudents; and a ſchool for writing and arithmetic ſubordinate to the grammar ſchool; that John M'Dowell, A. M. is already engaged as profeſſor of philoſophy—the Rev. Ralph Higginbottom, profeſſor of languages, and Mr. Patric M'Grath his aſſiſtant maſter; that there is a moral certainty that by the 17th of March, the number of ſtudents will exceed fifty. Indeed from the fortunate ſituation of St. John's College, the amount and ſtability of its funds, the character and reſidence of its truſtees, there is the faireſt proſpect preſented of its anſwering in the fulleſt extent the purpoſe of its liberal and wiſe founders, and benefactors.